IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A device comprising a user interface and a processor configured to:

receive a request for access to a menu from a user;

compile the requested menu, said menu including a list of menu options;

determine whether an application associated with a menu option is active or inactive and associate a corresponding status indicator with the menu option; and

display the list of menu options, where the presentation of a particular menu option includes a non-textual indication of the associated status indicator.

2. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, wherein a plurality of menu options with their corresponding non-textual status indications are presented simultaneously.

3. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, wherein the display further comprises a focus region and the presentation of the menu option corresponding to the position of the focus region includes the non-textual indication of its associated status indicator.

4. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, wherein the presentation of the menu option includes an icon displayed in the list of menu options.

5. (Original) A device according to claim 4, wherein the application status is indicated by the animation of the icon.

6. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 4, wherein the application status is indicated by the color properties of the icon.

7. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 3, configured to produce an alert where a menu option corresponding to the position of the focus region is associated with an active status indicator.

8. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 7, wherein an alert is produced using one or more of the following: animation of an icon, color, sound or vibration.

9. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, wherein the user interface comprises a display and a keypad.

10. (Previously Presented) A device according to claim 1, further configured to allow multitasking of applications.

11. (Previously Presented) A handheld telecommunications device according to claim 1.

12. (Previously Presented) A personal digital assistant device according to claim 1.

13. (Previously Presented) A personal computer device according to claim 1.

14. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving a request for access to a menu from a user;

compiling the requested menu, said menu including a list of menu options;

determining whether an application associated with a menu option is active or inactive and associating a corresponding status indicator with the menu option; and

displaying the list of menu options, wherein the presentation of a particular menu option includes providing a non-textual indication of its associated status indicator.

15. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium containing computer-readable code, which when executed by a computer, causes said computer to perform the method of claim 14.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising: a user interface configured to display <u>a menu in response to a request therefor, wherein said menu includes</u> a list of menu options, <u>and</u> wherein the presentation of a particular menu option includes a non-textual indication that indicates whether an application corresponding to that menu option is active or inactive.

18. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the presentation of the menu option includes an icon corresponding to the application and the application status is indicated by one of animation of the icon and color properties of the icon.

19. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 17, arranged to provide a focus region and to produce an alert where a menu option corresponding to the position of the focus region is associated with an active status indicator.

20. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 19, wherein an alert is produced using one or more of the following: animation of an icon, color, sound or vibration.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein a plurality of menu options with their corresponding non-textual status indications are presented simultaneously.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein displaying further comprises displaying a focus region and wherein the presentation of the menu option

corresponding to the position of the focus region includes the non-textual indication of its associated status indicator.

23. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 14, wherein the presentation of the menu option includes an icon displayed in the list of menu options.

24. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 23, wherein the application status is indicated by the animation of the icon.

25. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 23, wherein the application status is indicated by the color properties of the icon.

26. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 22, further comprising producing an alert where a menu option corresponding to the position of the focus region is associated with an active status indicator.

27. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 26, wherein an alert is produced using one or more of the following: animation of an icon, color, sound or vibration.

28. (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

means for receiving a request for access to a menu from a user;

means for compiling the requested menu, said menu including a list of menu options;

means for determining whether an application associated with a menu option is active or inactive and associating a corresponding status indicator with the menu option; and

means for displaying the list of menu options, wherein the presentation of a particular menu option includes a non-textual indication of its associated status indicator.

29. (New) The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the apparatus is at least one of a personal computer, a handheld telecommunications device and a personal digital assistant.